

## **SaMS Government Coordination Workgroup**

### **Reference Info for July 31, 2019 Meeting**

#### Third SAC Meeting (May 29, 2019)

- One SAC member suggested the members be open to the option of legislation if needed. Members discussed this option and commented:
  - New licensing/certification laws are tough to pass. Business community and environmental group support for tort reform is critical based on experiences in other states.
  - Passing legislation requires a strategy for gaining support. Adequately framing legislation proposals is critical to success, and communicating drinking water impacts will be important.
  - It may be premature to consider legislation around certification programs and tort reform because much of the framework isn't established yet. Legislative options versus recommendations may be most appropriate to discuss/include in the SaMS report.
  - SaMS could have a "for future consideration" section for the legislative concept and other recommendations that cannot be adequately addressed at this point in time.
- There is an opportunity for collaborative work by MS4 permit holders. While SaMS should not dictate the how MS4s comply with their separate permit requirements, suggested collaboration among the MS4s in their efforts is beneficial. Shared responsibilities may be a good opportunity for collaboration.
- Government Coordination Workgroup needs to give attention to shared resources, and collaborative funding options.
- A SAC member mentioned that levels of service seem to drive this effort more than liability concerns or other factors in terms of how much salt is used. The impact of the recommendations on stakeholders is important to consider. DEQ mentioned that the Education and Outreach Workgroup and the Government Coordination Workgroup considered communication of levels of service in their draft recommendations.
- Existing forums, such as Northern Virginia Clean Water Partners and the NVRC-led MS4 Workgroup, etc., could be leveraged. In upcoming meetings of these groups and the SaMS workgroups (e.g., Government Coordination Workgroup, Steering Committee, etc.), SAC members could engage the other participants in a discussion of whether a role in adaptive implementation of the SaMS is a good fit for that group. Many of the groups discussed are governmental in nature and therefore may not have adequate representation of non-government SAC members; this warrants further consideration.

#### Non-Traditional BMP Workgroup (March 5, 2019)

#### *Notes for Other Workgroups / Potential Areas of Overlap:*

- Workgroup members *suggested the Government Coordination Workgroup* discuss the potential to share costs for non-traditional deicers to see what opportunities exist. *NOTE ADDED: MW-COG has an existing contract for shared sidewalk salt purchases for local*

*governments, and Montgomery County administers a contract for bulk road salt purchases by local governments.*

- Identify recommendations that address proper containment of salt piles, particularly for “temporary” piles stored on commercial/private property parking lots for use during the winter season.
  - Discussion identified Fairfax County has used its Illicit Discharge Detection Program (IDDE) to address runoff from salt piles on private property to their regulated stormwater outlets. The County has developed guidance for storage of salt and sand piles, which is provided to private entities. A copy of the guidance was requested and received by DEQ on March 7, 2019 and is available [here](#).
  - Recommend that the Traditional BMPs Workgroup include BMPs for salt storage.
  - ***Recommended the Government Coordination Workgroup look into what authorities or programs that currently exist for localities that may address discharges from winter salt piles.***

#### Government Coordination Workgroup Meeting (December 3, 2018)

##### Highlights:

- The level of government coordination is already high before and during storm events. Coordination after winter storm events is an opportunity to discuss how well storm plans, operations, and messaging worked during the storm.
- Public messaging, levels of service, and legal authority needs to support the SaMS are important areas for the Government Coordination workgroup’s attention.
- The Government Coordination Workgroup relies on the outputs from the other workgroups, and will not meet next until after the 3<sup>rd</sup> SAC meeting when preliminary recommendations from other workgroups will be presented/discussed.
- It was recommended that the Government Coordination Workgroup continue to meet after the SaMS development is complete to support and promote implementation.

##### *Notes for Other Workgroups / Potential Areas of Overlap:*

- The Government Coordination Workgroup could act as an umbrella group to the other workgroups by assisting in disseminating their products. (All SaMS workgroups)
- Understanding existing monitoring activities and parameters could strengthen coordination among the area's governments. (Monitoring and Research workgroup)
- Consistent, coordinated messages that could work for a variety of situations is needed. This includes setting expectations for what a cleared road looks like. (Education and Outreach and BMP workgroups)
- A toolbox with “pre-storm messaging” (e.g. salt isn’t the answer to all situations) would be helpful. (Education and Outreach workgroup)